

Subject: November 2002 Unified Program Newsletter
To: All Unified Program Agencies

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State Fire Marshal

Fire Engineering

Effective October 3, 2002, Mike Richwine was assigned as the new Division Chief of Fire Engineering. Chief Richwine has twenty-three years experience in the fire service, the last 16 within the SFM. Richwine has coordinated haz mat programs within the SFM for seven years, and coordinated the Unified Program for SFM for a year and one-half. While serving in the Unified Program, Richwine was an active member of the Unified Program Administration and Advisory Group (UPPAG), the Unified Program Policy Group (UPPG), and various other working groups important in establishing Unified Program policy, procedures, and standards. He developed the performance standards used by the SFM in conducting CUPA evaluations, conducted CUPA evaluations, and participated as an instructor at the annual CUPA conference. Chief Richwine will oversee all programs in SFM Fire Engineering Division, including the Unified Program.

Film Safety Unit

A Fire Safety Officer training class is scheduled for December 11-13, 2002, in Glendale. Contact Al Adams for more information at (310) 217-6927.

Code Enforcement - Statutes and Regulations Course

The SFM Statutes and Regulations beta test class was given October 8th, 9th and 10th. The SFM received some very good comments and recommendations for improving the class. These recommendations will be incorporated into the course and will be part of the first "official" class given at the FPO workshop in Monterey in February 2003. Following the February class the SFM will attempt to conduct the class throughout the state on a quarterly basis. The actual means of delivery as well as the cost for the class is still being evaluated.

Code Enforcement - West Covina Office Relocation

The SFM West Covina office moved to Monrovia September 10th. The new address is:
602 East Huntington Drive, Suite A
Monrovia, California 91016
Telephone: (626) 305-1908
Fax: (626) 305-5173.

Code Development and Analysis Division - Title 19

Fire Extinguisher Regulations (Six-Year Teardown) – The Final Statement of Reasons and the Final Text are posted on the SFM web site. The regulations package is in the hands of the Office of Administrative Law. There were no significant changes to the proposed regulations; therefore a further written comment period is not necessary. Regulations are scheduled to take effect on January 1, 2003.

High-Power Rocket Fees - The Final Statement of Reasons and Final Text are posted on the SFM web site. The regulations package has been submitted for final review to the Office of Administrative Law. New fees will be in place 30-days after submittal to the Secretary of State.

Code Development and Analysis Division - Title 24

The SFM has established an advisory committee to assist in the development of regulations for wild land areas. The next meeting is scheduled for November 5, 2002. Visit the SFM web site for additional information on the progress of the committee.

The SFM attended the October 17, 2002 meeting of the California Building Standards Commission's (CBSC) Code Change Committee to discuss the process by which the state agencies will review the model codes for the 2004 Triennial Code Cycle.

The CBSC announced that on November 5, 2002, the Coordinating Council would meet to further discuss this process. At the November 20, 2002, meeting, each state agency will be expected to give a report to the CBSC as to the time needed to accomplish each agency's code review and comparison.

The following state agencies are representatives to the Coordinating Council:

- State Fire Marshal
- Division of the State Architect
- Office of Statewide Health, Planning and Development
- Housing and Community Development
- California Energy Commission
- Department of Health Services
- Department of Industrial Relations

The State Fire Marshal is currently making appointments to the State Fire Marshal's Fire and Life Safety Building Standards Advisory Board (Title 19 CCR § 2.06). The advisory board reviews proposed adoptions, amendments, and repeals of any State Fire Marshal "building standard," and offers recommendations on these actions to the State Fire Marshal. The membership will be as follows:

- Architect
- Mechanical Engineer
- Electrical Engineer
- Fire Protection Engineer
- Licensed Contractor
- CALBO Building Official
- Building Official from the County Building Officials Association of California
- Three Fire Officials from California Fire Chiefs Association
- Two Public Members

For additional information on this item check CBSC's web site at www.bsc.ca.gov.

If you are interesting in receiving updates on proposed code provisions please email the following information to Leslie.Billington@fire.ca.gov.

- Name
- Affiliation
- Mailing Address
- Email Address
- Fax Number
- Are you interested in receiving updates on a specific code or on all proposed code development?
- Do you need information in an "accessible" format?

State Water Resources Control Board

AB 2481 Fact Sheet

A fact sheet is now available that summarizes the impact of AB 2481 (effective 1/1/03).

http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/cwphome/ust/legal/AB_2481_%20CalEPA_FactSheet_10_17_02%20revised.pdf

AB 2481's provisions include:

- more stringent UST design requirements effective 7/1/03
- "red tag" authority for local agencies for significant violations of UST leak prevention (not cleanup) requirements
- administrative enforcement order authority for local agencies for all Unified Programs, including the UST leak prevention (not cleanup) program
- consolidation of UST corrective action requirements in the Health and Safety Code; and
- various other changes

For a copy of the bill visit: http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/bill/asm/ab_2451-2500/ab_2481_bill_20020927_chaptered.pdf

Cal/EPA

December Evaluation Schedule

Monterey County, December 3-5

Sunnyvale, December 10-12

Nevada County, December 17-19

FYI

US EPA Public Enforcement Database

The US EPA plans to launch its pilot website for the Enforcement and Compliance History Online (ECHO) during the week of November 18 (target launch date is November 20). The site can be accessed at:

www.epa.gov/echo. The pilot status will remain in effect for sixty days to allow the regulated community and general public to provide feedback.